

years, without doubt, prove a formidable rival to many now much larger towns.

A few miles West of this place is springing up a settlement in the centre of Colchester woods. There are two large sawmills and a large quantity of charcoal kilns, and the combined operations of these two industries will in a short time clear the wooded land and prepare it for the incoming settler, besides giving those in the locality a good market for all kinds of timber. This charcoal is principally shipped West to the Wyandotte Iron Works, which are also supplied to a considerable extent with Canadian iron, taken from the Madoc Mines, in the County of Hastings, and shipped by rail from Belleville.

There are some deposits of iron in this county, in the Township of Gosfield, which at one time were yielding in paying quantities and shipped by water to Cleveland. These beds have not, however, been worked for some time, but under the present protection of industries will doubtless again revive.

Leamington, Kingsville and Wheatly are villages situated in the Southern part of the county, and although they have no railway connection, are in close proximity to Lake Erie, and have docks where timber cordwood, apples, grain, &c. are easily disposed of, and, during the seasons of navigation, steamers, passing between Detroit and Eastern ports, are continually touching at these points and contribute to the general traffic and business of the County,

COUNTY OF KENT.

Chatham is the principal town of this County, contains a population of nearly 10,000 inhabitants; is situated on the River Thames, and about the middle of the county. The Great Western Railway passes through it on the Southerly side, and leading roads here converge, bringing together on the market days, of which there are two in each week, a great number of farmers from all sections of this county, and even the inhabitants of those adjoining have often constrained to wend their way thither, where they know can be found purchasers ready to pay the highest cash prices for produce and all articles of trade.

The River Thames is of great importance to Chatham from a mercantile point of view, lines of boats running regularly during the summer months to and from Montreal, touching at all important intermediate ports. Daily trips are made to Detroit, where considerable cordwood is disposed of. Great quantities of pine shingles, lumber, salt, &c. are brought in by water from the Collingwood district and the upper lakes. It might be well here to mention that since the first edition of this synopsis there have been erected two large and convenient grain elevators on the banks of the Thames. The gas mains are being extended to the extreme limits of the town. A large, new station house has been erected at the G. W. R. Depot. The proposed Erie and Huron Railway has been graded and prepared for the ties and iron. Two large banks have been built and many new stores erected. The telephone is in communication with all the principal business places. A Company have formed for the purpose of heating the town by steam under the Holly